

It was probably this uncertainty which prompted Ripley (1961)<sup>1</sup> to ignore this southern-most record and to restrict them to 'A few wintering records for West Pakistan in Sind and Baluchistan, and Gilgit'.

The specimen (B.N.H.S. Col. No. 13878, ♀, 27 Nov. 1914) has now been rediscovered, having been listed among Baillon's Crake, *Porzana pusilla* (Pallas). It is admittedly very similar to this species but the larger wing 98 (85-96 in *P. pusilla*), the absence of the white edge to the first primary and to the tips of the wing coverts, the buff-coloured breast and under-parts, the faint traces of black barring on the flanks and under-tail coverts, the structure of the wing, and comparison with specimens from Iraq, leave no doubt that the bird was correctly identified.

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,  
HORNBILL HOUSE, APOLLO STREET,  
BOMBAY-1,  
September 27, 1967.

SÁLIM ALI  
HUMAYUN ABDULALI

#### 8. SOUTHWARD EXTENSION OF THE RANGE OF THE SLENDERBILLED GULL (*LARUS GENEI* BRÉME)

The Slenderbilled Gull (*Larus genei* Brème) is known to breed at Las Belas in Baluchistan and in parts of Sind, and as a non-breeding visitor to the shores and tidal creeks of Sind. The southern-most records are from Bhavnagar in Kathiawar where Dharmakumarsinhji obtained a specimen on 4 December 1948 (BNHS Collection No. 14176) and referred to it in his BIRDS OF SAURASHTRA (1955 p. 213). Dr. Sálím Ali does not mention this bird in BIRDS OF KUTCH (1945) nor 'The Birds of Gujarat' (1954, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 52: 375), and Ripley's SYNOPSIS leaves the first distribution unchanged.

It may therefore be worthwhile recording that on 4 December, 1957, I collected one (BNHS Collection No. 21330) in Manori Creek, Salsette, Bombay, and have subsequently seen them in small parties and obtained specimens on 28 December 1960 and 9 January 1964, in the same area (Manori and Arnala Island). It would appear to be a fairly regular winter visitor to the Bombay coast. It is perhaps not better known because, not being a scavenger like the other gulls, it keeps out more at sea. The 3 specimens obtained by me and also the one from Bhavnagar are all in immature plumage, having dark subterminal bands to the tail.

ST. XAVIER'S HIGH SCHOOL,  
BOMBAY,  
May 6, 1967.

BR. A. NAVARRO, S.J.

<sup>1</sup> RIPLEY, S. D. (1961) : Synopsis of the Birds of India and Pakistan.